

Message Text

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ACTION MC-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 PM-04 TRSE-00 COME-00 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 EB-07 DODE-00 L-03 SY-05 /035 W

----- 116058

R 281009Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 903

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI, NI

SUBJECT: LAWS GOVERNING FIREARM IMPORTATION

REF: STATE 177789

1. NIGERIA CLASSIFIES WEAPONS AS FOLLOWS:

PART I - PROHIBITED FIREMARS

1. HEAVY ARTILLERY OF ALL KINDS.

2. APPARATUS FOR THE DISCHARGE OF ANY EXPLOSIVE OR GAS
DIFFUSING PROJECTILE.

3. ROCKET WEAPONS.

4. BOMBS AND GRENADES.

5. MACHINE-GUNS AND MACHINE-PISTOLS.

6. MILITARY RIFLES, NAMELY THOSE OF CALIBRES 7.62 MM. AND
.303 INCHES.

7. REVOLVERS AND PISTOLS WHETHER RIFLED OR UNRIFLED
(INCLUDING FLINTLOCK PISTOLS AND CAP PISTOLS).

8. ANY OTHER FIREARM NOT SPECIFIED IN PART II OR PART III
OF THE SCHEDULE.

PART II - PERSONAL FIREARMS

1. SHOTGUNS.

2. SPORTING RIFLES, NAMELY RIFLES OF CALIBRES OTHER
THAN THOSE SPECIFIED IN ITEM 6 OF PART I.

3. AIR-GUNS, AIR-RIFLES OR AIR-PISTOLS.

4. HUMANE KILLERS OF THE CAPTIVE BOLT TYPE.

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PART III - MUZZLE-LOADING FIREARMS

1. DANE-GUNS.
2. FLINT-LOCK GUOS. -ALL BEING UNRIFLED
3. CAP GUNS. AND MUZZLE-LOADING

2. FOLLOWING IS IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS PARA. 2 REFTEL:

(A) LICENSE IS REQUIRED TO IMPORT ALL PART I ITEMS.

LICENSE ALSO REQUIRED TO IMPORT PARTS II AND III

ITEMS WITH FOLLOWING EXCEPTIONS:

- (I) IMPORTER WHO HAS LICENSE TO POSSESS;
- (II) IMPORTER WHO IMPORTS FIREARMS OR AMMUNITION AS PART OF PERSONAL EFFECTS AND WHO AGREES TO SURRENDER SAME TO A SPECIFIED AUTHORITY;
- (III) TRANSIT PASSENGER WHO AGREES TO SURRENDER FIREARM OR AMMUNITION TO CUSTOMS OR POLICE AUTHORITY DURING PERIOD OF TRANSIT;
- (IV) IMPORTER WHO AGREES TO APPLY FOR A LICENSE TO POSSESS FIREARM OR AMMUNITION AND WHO AGREES TO SURRENDER SAME PENDING APPROVAL OF APPLICATION.

(B) LICENSE TO IMPORT IS ISSUED BY INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE.

(C) THOSE ELIGIBLE TO OBTAIN AN IMPORT LICENSE ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- (I) A REGISTERED FIREARMS DEALER;
- (II) A MEMBER OF A RIFLE CLUB OR OF A UNIT OF A CADET FORCE APPROVED BY THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE, WHEN ENGAGED AS SUCH A MEMBER IN DRILL OR TARGET PRACTICE OR UNDER INSTRUCTION IN RESPECT OF ANY FIREARMS OR AMMUNITION NECESSARY FOR SUCH DRILL OR PRACTICE;
- (III) A SIGNALEE ON BOARD A SHIP OR AIRCRAFT OR AT A PORT OR AIRPORT, IN RESPECT OF SIGNALLING APPARATUS ONLY.
- (IV) A TECHNICIAN USING A RIVETING GUN OR MECHANICAL TOOL OF THE NATURE OF A FIREARM INRESEPCT OF THAT APPARATUS OR TOOL ONLY.

3. IN ADDITION TO IMPORT LICENSES THERE ARE ALSO LICENSES TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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POSSESS. PART I FIREARMS MAY NOT BE OWNED WITHOUT LICENSE TO POSSESS GRANTED BY POLICE LICENSING AUTHORITY. SAME HOLDS TRUE FOR PART II FIREARMS WITH FOLLOWING EXCEPTIONS:

- (A) A REGISTERED FIREARMS DEALER;
- (B) HOLDER OF A PERMIT FOR MANUFACTURE OR REPAIR OF FIREARMS;
- (C) A PERSON USING A RIVETING GUN OR MECHANICAL TOOL WHICH MAY COME UNDER THE DEFINITION OF A FIREARM;

(D) A SINGNALER ON BOARD A SHIP OR AIRCRAFT OR AT A PORT OR AIRPORT, IN RESPECT OF SIGNALLING APPARATUS ONLY;

(E) A MEMBER OF A RIFLE CLUB OR OF A UNIT OF A CADET FORCE APPROVED BY THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE, WHEN ENGAGED AS SUCH A MEMBER IN DRILL OR TARGET PRACTICE OR UNDER INSTRUCTION IN RESPECT OF ANY FIREARM OR AMMUNITION NECESSARY FOR SUCH DRILL OR PROACTIC;

(F) A PERSON TAKING PART IN THE PRODUCTION OF A THEATRICAL OR CINEMATOGRAPH PERFORMANCE IN RESPECT OF A FIREARM OR AMMUNITION NECESSARY FOR SUCH PURPOSE;

(G) A STARTER AT AN ATHLETIC EVENT;

(H) A PERSON HAVING A FIREARM OR AMMUNITION THEREFOR DESIGNED FOR THE CAPTURE OF FISH BY A DIVER UNDER WATER IN RESPECT OF SUCH FIREARM OR AMMUNITION.

AUTHORITY TO PROHIBIT POSSESSION OF PART III FIREARMS IN ABSENCE OF A LICENSE TO POSSESS IS VESTED IN STATES. POSSESSION OF PART III FIREARM WITHOUT A LICENSE IS PROHIBITED IN LAGOS. IN ADDITION TO THE LICENSE TO POSSESS, ANY PERSON WISHING TO POSSESS A FIREARM MUST FIRST OBTAIN FROM THE POLICE LICENSING AUTHORITY A PERMIT TO BUY.

4. SOURCE OF PARAS 1-3 IS NIGERIAN LAW. NIGERIAN POLICE INFORM US THEIR CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION MAINTAINS A CENTRAL FIREARMS REGISTRY WHERE ALL FIREARMS DEALERS AND ALL FIREARMS IMPORTED AND DISTRIBUTED THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY ARE RECORDED. INTO THIS REGISTRY IS FED A MONTHLY RETURN OF ALL LICENSES OR PERMITS ISSUED BY THE LICENSING AUTHORITIES. FINALLY THE LICENSING AUTHORITIES ARE SAID TO INSURE THAT EACH REGISTERED FIREARMS DEALER KEEPS ACCURATE RECORDS OF SALES OF ARMS AND AMMUNITION, WHICH ARE INSPECTED PERIODICALLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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